

Library Info Alert December 2005

Library Info Alert focuses on recent developments in the field of library science and information management in the United States. It contains summaries of articles from leading library-related periodicals and recommended Internet sites. The *Library Info Alert* is published by the Information Resource Centers in Germany.

1. Another Phine Kettle of Phish: Identity Theft Prevention

By Carol Ebbinghouse and Barbara Brynko
(*Searcher*, November/December 2005, Vol.13, Issue 10, pg. 16)

Today we are all faced with the threat of our identities being stolen. In this article Ebbinghouse and Brynko present a *Wall Street Journal Online* article which summarizes a first hand account of identity theft and many ways to protect yourself against it.

2. Black and White and Dead All Over: Are Newspapers Headed 6 Feet Under?

By Paula Berinstein
(*Searcher*, November/December 2005, Vol.13, Issue 10, pg. 46)

The written newspaper industry is on the brink of disaster. Here Paula Berinstein discusses the evolution of newspapers briefly, and then presents several reasons why people today have lost interest in reading written news. She targets issues such as reader demographics, confidence in the news and the World Wide Web, along with several others. Paula Berinstein is Consultant with Berinstein Research.

3. Blogging Is So Last Year-Now Podcasting Is Hot

By Janet L. Balas
(*Computers in Libraries*, November/December 2005, Vol.25, Issue 10, pg. 29)

Librarians who want to project an image of being technically savvy while spending precious dollars wisely may find it difficult to decide whether to be early adopters of a new technology or to wait until the market decides if it will survive. Here, Balas takes a look at the development of Podcasts and considers its use in the library. Janet L. Balas is library information systems specialist at Monroeville (Pa.) Public Library.

4. Digitization Plans Top the News

By Paula J Hane
(*Information Today*, November 2005, Vol.22, Issue 10, pg. 7)

The dynamic digital world continues to dominate the headlines. Here, Paula Hane discusses the current information technology world by summarizing the newest developments in digital libraries, by looking at the advent of local news on the internet, by the continued competition between Yahoo! and Google as the worlds best search engine, and by the latest internet company mergers. Paula Hane is Information today inc.'s news bureau chief and editor of News-breaks.

5. Education Searches Beyond ERIC: Government Policies, Teaching, and Technology

By Barbie E. Keiser
(*Searcher*, November/December 2005, Vol. 13, Issue 10, pg. 37)

The educational resources on the web are too vast to be summarized in one article. However, here Keiser provides a representative sampling of web-based educational resources provided by academic institutions, government agencies, not-for-profits, and commercial enterprises. Barbie E. Keiser is an information resources management consultant.

6. Google Print and Open Content Alliance

By Barbara Quint
(*Information Today*, November 2005, Vol.22, Issue 10, pg. 7)

The digitization of libraries, once dominated by Google Print, is now facing competition from "The Open Content Alliance" (OCA), a loose-knit coalition backed by Yahoo!, the Internet Archive, and a network of libraries, publishers, academics, and other large content providers. Barbara Quint compares these two initiatives, and their different approaches to solving a

difficult problem. Barbara Quint is editor of *Searcher* magazine

7. Google Print and the Fair Use Doctrine

By George H. Pike

(*Information Today*, November 2005, Vol. 22, Issue 10, pg. 17)

Last December, Google announced its plan to scan millions of books from libraries around the world. When scanning books owned by libraries, however, Google does not receive copyright permission from the author or publisher. Not surprisingly, The Authors Guild and several individual authors recently filed a federal lawsuit against Google claiming that the company is engaging in massive copyright infringement. The validity of Google's claim will rest on fair use's four factors test: 1. What is the purpose and character of the use? 2. What is the nature of the work being copied? 3. How much of the original work is being copied? 4. What is the effect on the market for the original work? George H. Pike is director of the Barco Law Library and assistant professor of law at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law.

8. The Helping You Buy Series: Comparing Competing Library Technology Products

By Stephen Meyer

(*Computers in Libraries*, November/December 2005, Vol.25, Issue 10, pg. 19)

Managing electronic resources successfully requires a coordinated effort from many different departments. Here, Meyer provides a guide on buying electronic resource management systems. Stephen Meyer is an NCSU Libraries Fellow at North Carolina State University in Raleigh. Meyer is part of the development group for E-Matrix, the NCSU Libraries serials, journals, and electronic resource management system, where he has contributed to the interface design and work-flow processes for the ERM system.

9. If We Build It, Will They Come? Electronic Journals Acceptance and Usage Patterns

By Patricia B. Serotkin, Patricia I. Fitzgerald and Sandra A. Balough

(*Portal: Libraries and the Academy*, October 2005, Vol.5, Issue 4, pg. 497)

A focus group study conducted with health sciences students enrolled in graduate-level research classes at a small private comprehensive university revealed that these students preferred e-journals to print but that accessibility issues deterred their use. These findings provided valuable insights for local collection development decision-making and information literacy program development.

Patricia B. Serotkin is director of library and academic information services. Saint Francis University, Loretta, PA. Patricia I. Fitzgerald is associate professor of physical therapy, Saint Francis University, Loretta, PA. Sandra A. Balough is associate librarian for collections and access services, Saint Francis University, Loretta, PA.

10. Let's Get Personal: Customized Searching

By Sheri R Lanza

(*Searcher*, November/December 2005, Vol.13, Issue 10, pg. 27)

In this article Lanza compares the services provide by Yahoo!, MSN, and Google for customizing your search-engine displays. Lanza considers such aspects as amount of information provided, flexibility of content, and ease of creation. She concludes that Google provides the most flexible and best options for her taste. Sheri R. Lanza is with S. R. Lanza Associates.

11. Make Way for Wikis

By Eric Oatman

(*School Library Journal*, November 2005, Vol.51, Issue 11, pg. 52)

Eric Oatman introduces the world of open source technology through the phenomenon of Wikis. These are public Internet pages in which many contributors can add or edit content to achieve a single, more comprehensive and accurate product. Furthermore, he discusses the useful role of such Wikis in the classroom and library as a communal teaching tool, inspiring student participation.

12. The New Visual Displays That Are 'Floating' Your Way

By Terence K. Huwe

(*Computers in Libraries*, November/December 2005, Vol.25, Issue 10, pg. 33)

The visual display of digital collections lies very near to the heart of the user's experience of library research. Here, Huwe describes some very experimental visual display technologies that will affect collections and services in the coming years. Terence K. Huwe is the former president of the Librarians Association of the University of California and director of library and information resources at the Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California-Berkeley.

13. Promoting the Library's CD collection via iTunes File Sharing

By Bruce Connolly

(*Computers in Libraries*, November/December 2005, Vol.25, Issue 10, pg. 6)

One of the hippest things one can do with technology is to use it to meet students on their own turf. Here, Connolly describes a group of librarians who started sharing its vast CD collection via iTunes. Bruce Connolly is a reference librarian at Union College's Schaffer Library in Schenectady, N.Y. He is responsible for building the library's CD collection and he edits *PLAY: The Online Music Reference Source for Librarians, Listeners, and Collection Builders*, which is published on the Schaffer Library Web site.

14. Qualitative Assessment of Student Attitudes Toward Information Literacy

By B. Jane Scales and Elizabeth Blakesley Lindsay

(*Portal: Libraries and the Academy*, October 2005, Vol.5, Issue 4, pg. 513)

This article describes the design and implementation of an online Information literacy course at Washington State University, with a discussion of the types of assignments and assessments used. An analysis of the final course project shows how students think about information literacy in addition to learning the tasks of selecting, citing, and evaluating sources. Elizabeth Blakesley Lindsay is head of library instruction, Washington State University Libraries, Pullman, WA.

15. Take the E-Only Test

By A. Ben Wagner

(*Library Journal*, November 15, 2005, Vol. 130, Issue 19, p. 36)

Budget, space limitations, and the ever-increasing demand for 24/7 access to material are driving many libraries to electronic-only journal subscriptions. These two tools will help you decide if your library is ready for e-only journal subscriptions. A. Ben Wagner is sciences librarian at the University at Buffalo, SUNY.

16. Testing the Effectiveness of Interactive Multimedia for Library-User Education

By Karen Markey et al.

(*Portal: Libraries and the Academy* October 2005, Vol.5, Issue 4, pg. 527)

A test of the effectiveness of interactive multimedia Web sites demonstrates that library users' topic knowledge was significantly greater after visiting the sites than before. Library users

want more such sites about library services, their majors, and campus life generally.

Librarians describe the roles they want to play on multimedia production teams after working on the LUMENS Project. Karen Markey is professor at the School of Information, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.

17. TREC: Improving Information Access through Evaluation

By Ellen M. Voorhees

(*Bulletin of the American Society for Information Science and Technology*, October/November 2005, Vol.32, Issue 1, pg. 16)

The Test Retrieval Conference (TREC) was designed to offer better methodology for test collection and retrieval. This article provides a brief introduction to TREC. After an initial section that describes how TREC operates, the article summarizes the impact TREC has had in the areas of retrieval system effectiveness, retrieval system evaluation and support of new retrieval tasks. Ellen M. Voorhees can be reached at National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD.

18. The USA PATRIOT Act and Libraries: A Sensitive Relationship

By George H. Pike

(*Information Today*, November 2005, Vol.22, Issue 10, pg. 1)

The sensitive relationship between libraries and the USA PATRIOT Act is making headlines again. Here Pike looks closer at the relationship between libraries, the powers granted to the Federal Government for investigating library records by the Patriot Act, and the rights of free speech and protection against unreasonable searches. He concludes with a brief summary of the history and future of the Patriot Act. George H. Pike is director of the Barco Law Library and an assistant professor of law at the University of Pittsburgh School.

19. Web Team Development

By Jennifer Church and Kyle Felker

(*Portal: Libraries and the Academy*, October 2005, Vol.5, Issue 4, pg. 545)

The dynamic world of the Web has provided libraries with a wealth of opportunities, including new approaches to the provision of information and varied internal staffing structures. The development of self-managed Web teams, endowed with authority and resources, can create an adaptable and responsive culture within libraries. This new working team culture and its successful management can provide focused attention to the big picture as well as to the multitude of details required for Web site

construction and maintenance. Jennifer Church is head of media and computer services, Lied Library, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, NV. Kyle Felker is library technology coordinator, Washington and Lee University Library, Lexington, VA.

20. Where Did Google Get Its Value?

By James Caufield

(*Portal: Libraries and the Academy*, October 2005, Vol.5, Issue 4, pg. 555)

Google's extraordinary success is usually attributed to innovative technology and new business models. By contrast, this paper argues that Google's success is mostly due to its adoption of certain library values. The author looks at the way in which Google acts against traditional search-engine practices of putting profit before service. Instead, Google has implemented many policies and design principles that correlate directly to established library values, and implement systems that replicate normal library functions. The author

argues that this has led to Google's success. James Caufield is assistant professor, University Library, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM.

21. Yahoo! Goes Deep

By Mick O'Leary

(*Information Today*, November 2005, Vol.22, Issue 10, pg. 39)

Search engines have been quite successful at cataloging the public (or surface) Web, and now they're ready to do the same for the deep (or hidden) Web. The deep Web consists of Internet-based information that cannot be reached by search engine crawlers mainly because users need to pay a fee to access it. Yahoo! Search Subscription (YSS) is an attempt to create one subscribed database that allows access to pay-only sights. This author is critical of this attempt on the grounds that its interface is still minimal, and has major holes in the product line. Mick O'Leary is the director of the library at Frederick, Md., and a principal in The Data Brokers.

The New York Times Best Books of 2005

Published: December 11, 2005 by the
New York Times

Fiction:

KAFKA ON THE SHORE

By Haruki Murakami.

Alfred A. Knopf, \$25.95.

This graceful and dreamily cerebral novel, translated from the Japanese by Philip Gabriel, tells two stories - that of a boy fleeing an Oedipal prophecy, and that of a witless old man who can talk to cats - and is the work of a powerfully confident writer.

ON BEAUTY

By Zadie Smith.

Penguin Press, \$25.95.

In her vibrant new book, a cultural-politics novel set in a place like Harvard, the author of "White Teeth" brings everything to the table: a crisp intellect, a lovely wit and enormous sympathy for the men, women and children who populate her story.

PREP

By Curtis Sittenfeld.

Random House, \$21.95. Paper, \$13.95.

This calm and memorably incisive first novel, about a scholarship girl who heads east to attend an elite prep school, casts an unshakable spell and has plenty to say about class, sex and character.

SATURDAY

By Ian McEwan.

Nan A. Talese/Doubleday, \$26.

As bracing and as carefully constructed as anything McEwan has written, this astringent novel traces a day in the life of an English neurosurgeon who comes face to face with senseless violence.

VERONICA

By Mary Gaitskill.
Pantheon Books, \$23.

This mesmerizingly dark novel from the author of "Bad Behavior" and "Two Girls, Fat and Thin" is narrated by a former Paris model who is now sick and poor; her ruminations on beauty and cruelty have clarity and an uncanny bite.

Nonfiction**THE ASSASSINS' GATE****America in Iraq**

By George Packer.
Farrar, Straus & Giroux, \$26.

A comprehensive look at the largest foreign policy gamble in a generation, by a New Yorker reporter who traces the full arc of the war, from the pre-invasion debate through the action on the ground.

DE KOONING**An American Master**

By Mark Stevens and Annalyn Swan.
Alfred A. Knopf, \$35.

A sweeping biography, impressively researched and absorbingly written, of the charismatic immigrant who stood at the vortex of mid-20th-century American art.

DE KOONING**An American Master**

By Mark Stevens and Annalyn Swan.
Alfred A. Knopf, \$35.

A sweeping biography, impressively researched and absorbingly written, of the charismatic immigrant who stood at the vortex of mid-20th-century American art.

THE LOST PAINTING

By Jonathan Harr.
Random House, \$24.95.

This gripping narrative, populated by a beguiling cast of scholars, historians, art restorers and aging nobles, records the search for Caravaggio's "Taking of Christ," painted in 1602 and rediscovered in 1990.

POSTWAR**A History of Europe Since 1945**

By Tony Judt.
The Penguin Press, \$39.95.

Judt's massive, learned, brilliantly detailed account of Europe's recovery from the wreckage of World War II presents a whole continent in panorama even as it sets off detonations of insight on almost every page.

THE YEAR OF MAGICAL THINKING

By Joan Didion.
Alfred A. Knopf, \$23.95.
A prose master's harrowing yet exhilarating memoir of a year riven by sudden death (her husband's) and mortal illness (their only child's).

For further information on the books, their authors and reviews please see the website link:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2005/12/11/books/review/tenbest.html?ex=1137646800&en=e647a9658c274bf3&ei=5070>

NOTE: The NY-Times online requires a free registration to access their site. A log-on name and e-mail address are required.

NOTE: Library Info Alert is available to subscribers only. You may contact us through e-mail to order the requested material. Full text of articles will be sent to you as soon as possible

Impressum:

US-Generalkonsulat Leipzig * Information Resource Center * Wilhelm-Seyffferth-Str. 4
* 04107 Leipzig *

* Tel.: (0341) 213 84 25 * Fax: (0341) 213 84 43 *

* E-Mail: ircleipzig@state.gov *

Internet: <http://www.usembassy.de/germany/irc/>.